

Covid-19 Newsletter

Welcome

Good afternoon,
In these strange and difficult times, I intend to send a weekly newsletter to share any updates that I have received from the government, update you on the situation at school and also support in your efforts to maintain your children's learning and also their (and yours!) health and wellbeing.

Well, the end of the school term is suddenly nearly here. I genuinely had no idea when I sat to write the first of these newsletters, that I would still be writing them 15 weeks later! Although life is anything but normal yet, it has been invigorating to welcome our new Year 7 students into school over the last two days. Their transition experience has been very different to that of your child but that same sense of excitement, nerves and wonder was evident on their faces as they came in to meet staff and hand in their forms.

I am currently working on the plans for September and will dedicate a much longer section in next week's final newsletter of the term to the detail in those plans.

We will be following the governments guidance of placing our students into Year group 'bubbles' and are likely to have some changes to the timings of the day but also focusing on making sure that the children receive as broad and normal a learning experience as we can give them.

As has been the case throughout, the safety of your children, their families and the school staff will be our number one priority when developing the plans for September.

School remains open every day to any students that fall into these two categories:

1. Students whose parents are Key Workers – this list is widely available and has been sent out. Students should only attend school if no other care is possible. Home remains the safest place.
2. Vulnerable Students who have been **contacted by the school**.

I would ask that you contact us if you intend to send your child into school because they fall into one of these two categories and they have not been coming in already. This way we will be better prepared for any students that we receive.

c.thomas@lhea.org.uk



Free School Meals

The government has now confirmed that these will be continued over the summer holidays. Vouchers have been ordered for all of those who are eligible.

The email address for parents and carers, who are experiencing difficulties is:

freeschoolmealsparents carers@edenr ed.com

I also understand that for some parents and carers, these are very challenging times financially and you may now wonder if you are eligible for Free School Meals after a change in your circumstances.

Click here to check whether you are eligible for Free School Meals and here to fill in the online application form.

How to support home learning



Can I please ask you to make sure that your children check their school email as well as Show My Homework. Information on how to access their email will be sent out on Show My Homework. They should also be encouraged to reply to emails that they receive from their teachers and tutor.

Show My Homework and Remote Learning – some reminders

- 1) Show My Homework (SMHW) is a simple online programme where teachers upload details of learning activities and resources that should be completed at home. All students at LHEA have an account with SMHW and should view this site on a daily basis.
- 2) Parents/carers have also been invited to set up an account.
- 3) The mobile app and notifications ensure parents/carers always know what homework their child has and when it's due.
- 4) Once logged in, the best way to view your child's homework is to click on the "calendar" block.
- 5) Clicking on a coloured bar reveals the detailed description of the activity and when it is due.
- 6) The SMHW app is available to download from Apple and Google.
 - Open the app and type in "Lynch Hill Enterprise Academy"
 - Type in your email/username and password.
 - You will be taken to your child's To-doList
- 7) If any parent/carer needs help with setting up accounts, or if any student has either forgotten their password or has been experiencing trouble logging in, please contact Mr Arnold using l.arnold@lhea.org.uk
- 8) Any student who is not able to access online resources from home can come into school and collect paper copies of work which are all available in reception, arranged by Year group.

Connecting Communities in Berkshire-Home energy advice

Helen Dean works for a charity CCB, and delivers the CCB Family Home Energy Education and Advice Project, giving low-income families advice and information on how to reduce their gas and electricity bills.

Helen has worked with many families over the last six years to give personalised 1:1 advice on how they can save money on their gas and electricity bills. The advice and information includes what energy companies are doing to help those during the COVID-19 pandemic, how to compare costs and switch suppliers to save money, claiming discounts available to families on low incomes and top tips on reducing energy usage at home.

Helen offers personalised advice by phone, WhatsApp call or whatever your preferred method of communication is, in a friendly and accepting way, and will follow up on advice after it's been given.

If you would like to contact Helen, please send her an email with your phone details to helen.dean@ccberks.org.uk Helen will be available from Monday 13th – Thursday 23rd July.

Parent/Community Governor

When we return in September, there will be openings to become a governor at the school. If this is something that would be of interest to you, I would be delighted to have an informal discussion in the first instance in preparation for more formally inviting parents when we return.

The role of the governors is more important than ever in ensuring that the school runs as effectively and safely as possible.

Please contact me on my school email address if you are interested.

c.thomas@lhea.org.uk

DofE recognises LHEA's contribution

Last week, LHEA received a certificate from the Duke of Edinburgh charity detailing the amazing work which our pupils have achieved since the award was launched here.

As you know, participants on the Bronze DofE award have to complete between three and six months of physical activity, a skill and volunteering. The award is a way of young people to improve themselves by developing new skills and putting them at the heart of their communities.

This has proved to be slightly more challenging during the lockdown, as our pupils have been doing some excellent community work. This has not stopped them from adapting their volunteering to provide more support at home, by shopping for elderly or shielding relatives and supporting younger siblings with home schooling.

Since October 2019, when we launched the award, our pupils have contributed 65 hours to the local community, which equates to £282.75.

This is a fantastic achievement for our participants and I know there are many more hours which our pupils have contributed but have yet to log on their eDofE portals.

If your child is involved in the DofE programme, please encourage them to keep logging their hours so that we can get them certified by the end of the year, even if they've had to change their volunteering because of the lockdown.

If you are parent of a pupil in year 8 currently and would be interested in your child beginning their DofE journey in September, please don't hesitate to email me for more information: e.tate-harratt@lhea.org.uk.



Humanities Home Learning

Religious Education

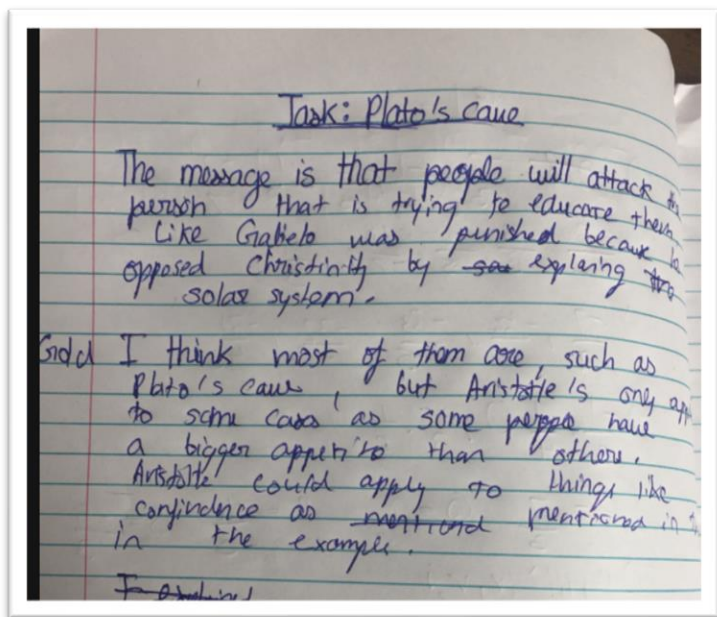
There are many exciting things happening in R.E at the moment, as well as many great examples of excellent student work.

Year 7

Students in year 7 are currently completing their 'religious artefacts' topic. This topic focuses on the many important items used within Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, Sikhism and Hinduism and allow the students to understand what they are used for and why they are important, as well as analyse the similarities and differences within the religions.

Year 8

Year 8 are currently finishing their 'philosophy topic'. This topic focuses on many of the key questions, such as; what is morality? What is truth? Ethical dilemmas and Greek philosophy. This topic is great for getting students to think about the processes we use to know something is real, how we know that something is right and wrong as well as some of the ethical and philosophical questions raised by Socrates, Plato and Aristotle (three famous Greek philosophers).



Sai's excellent description of Plato's Allegory of the Cave

Philosophical Questions (all of these answers are my opinion and from a Islamic perspective)

Statement	Agree	Unsure	Disagree	A reason to support my view.
There is no such thing as evil			✓	There is such thing as evil as you can see in the world how much corruption there is E.G the muslims being put in concentration camps and also being battered by the media.
Humans are not different from animals			✓	Because we are intelligent (my real answer would take up a whole slide show).
Plants have feelings			✓	I don't believe plants have feelings, but I do believe we should take care of them as if God has given them to us we should take care of it.
It is never ok to lie			✓	I believe that is never ok to lie but you can on certain occasions (life or death situations).
Knowledge is more important than happiness	✓			I would say yes because on earth deep down in the bottom of your heart you know that you can never be happy and that once you get something you always want more. That is human nature as the prophet Muhammad PBUH said 'if a son of Adam had a mountain of gold he would want another'. The Quran is going to be our guide on the day of judgment and the more you know the better. We also believe that the prophet Muhammad PBUH was the most perfect person and had the best of character, pies to all Muslim or not so we learn about him so we can try

Ahmed Dar's great explanations to some complicated Questions.

Year 9

Year 9 have already started their GCSE and are currently working through the topic of 'religion, peace and conflict'. This topic allows them to look at the various religious attitudes towards peace and war, as well as many of the key concepts within war such as holy war and the Just War Theory.

Business Studies

Key stage 3

Year 9: Financial Studies

Year 9 have worked hard whilst learning from home. They have learnt about important real life financial topics such as **'Borrowing & Debt'**, **'Repayment, Interest & APR'**, **'Making informed financial choices'**, **'Credit Cards & Loans'** & **'Mortgages'**. They have recently measured their learning by conducting an end of unit assessment.

Key Stage 4

Year 10: GCSE Business Studies

During year 10, students learn Theme 1 'Investigating Small Business'. By Easter half term, this theme is completed thus allowing more time in year 11 for revision, consolidation and practice for tackling exam questions. Since September, students have learnt about **'Enterprise & Entrepreneurship'**, **'Spotting a business opportunity'**, **'Putting a business idea into practice'** and **'Making the business effective'**.

Since year 10 Business students have been working from home, they have tackled a Theme 1 Exam paper. Most students have the subject knowledge but highlighted difficulty in answering higher mark questions. With this valuable feedback, I have designed power points in teaching students how to structure and answer higher mark questions.

Useful links for Business Studies:

www.revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/business-studies

www.bbc.co.uk/learning/subjects/business_studies

www.topmarks.co.uk

History

Work in History has continued a pace during lockdown. Year 7's have continued studying the Tudors are moving on to the English Civil War before they finish for summer and seeing if they would make the same mistake Charles II made – although those mistakes cost Charles his head... The Year 8's are now discovering the complex nature of the causes of World War I in readiness for them learning about the rise of Hitler in Year 9, and speaking of Year 9, they have probably seen the biggest change in their studies, those that have chosen to study History at GCSE are now well into their studies and are looking at the Berlin Crisis of 1948 and 1949.

Year 10 have been studying their third of our four GCSE Topics, Crime and Punishment from 1000 – Present Day which we will complete when we return in September, before moving to our final topic of Weimar and Nazi Germany in preparation for their exams next summer.

Finally plans are being finalised for our History trips in the next academic year. The first of which will be the postponed Year 8 trip to Ypres – this trip was postponed from March and although the students will be in Year 9 when they go, it is still a very worthwhile and enjoyable experience for all who are going.

Geography

Geography has progressed through many different topics for Y7, 8 and 9, giving students an opportunity to discover different aspects of the geography curriculum. The quality of work I have received from students has improved greatly. I am delighted with the effort some students are putting into their geography work at home. As time has progressed through remote teaching, geography has looked at creating more interesting and engaging lessons for students to work through at home.

For Y10 the focus has been about adding voice notes to Power Points that has received positive feedback from students as they are hearing the key aspects of lessons from their teachers. The geography department will continue to choose topics that are engaging and encourage students to get actively involved in their learning.

Movie Camp

Hotels
Every part has a hotel. A bus leaves every day (8.00am) to go to the next part. It is a 6 day trip.

Harry Potter, Game of Thrones, Star Wars, repeat

Your safety is Our Priority
Due to the corona-virus Pandemic, new social distancing rules have been released. All visitors must remain 2 metres apart. Our social distancing guards will make sure this will happen. Adding onto this, there will be various hand sanitiser stations and masks may be bought at some stores.

Game of Thrones
Fan of game of thrones? Well part 2 out of 3 is just part for you! Learn how the movies were made, what the movie was inspired by and get some exclusive videos!
Rides available

Star Wars
Our Star wars segment it ~~is~~ ^{is} the best segment of the whole trip. Learn the backstory for all the main characters and enjoy exclusive videos from the movies itself.
Rides available

Tragic Magic
Learn the history of magic is part 1/3 of the tour. Look and experience the inside facts of the Harry Potter sequel with endless charms and jinxes the could keep the back of your hair tingling.
Rides available

Costs
6 and under = Free
7 - 16 = £25
16 and above = £50
Group of 5 and above = £175
Extras:
Ride pass = £10 each
Fast pass = £50 per pass